MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter is under enquiry.

Appointments in the Account Office.

278. **MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have recently made any appointment in the acting or permanent clerical establishment of the Account Office, overlooking the claims of those who have already acted, and who were waiting for re-entertainment;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the reason for so overlooking the claims of those who have acted;

(*c*) the name of the person so appointed; and

(*d*) the nature of the work that he is attending to?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) None, in a substantive capacity. As regards acting appointments, there have been a few such instances. As a rule, acting men are taken on in vacancies in the order of their earliest acting appointment. When a man is not available, when his turn comes, he loses that opportunity. In some cases, an acting man is kept on in the interests of the particular work on which he is employed.

(*c*) and (*d*) There are just now two men who continue on the acting list in preference to men who began to act earlier. They are: N. Thanu Pillai B. A. and R. Ramakrishna Aiyar B. A. The former is working as a Savings Bank Auditor, and the latter, as the Account Officer's Stenographer.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): In the answer to parts (*a*) and (*b*), it is stated that new applicants will be appointed when the acting applicants are not available. I wish to know from the Financial Secretary how he will know that an applicant who has once acted previously is not available?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I can very well write a Post Card to him, and, if he does not reply, it is presumed that he is not available.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Has the Government kept the address of all the applicants?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): The Government have nothing to do with it. The applicants give their address always, but if they change their residence without intimating the change, it is not possible to communicate to them.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): May I know whether a list of all these men is kept in the office?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): A list of those who have once acted is kept in the office.

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MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Does the member mean to say that when one applicant loses his opportunity then he should be considered as a fresh applicant again?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): With regard to the answer to parts (*c*) and (*d*), am I to understand that those who acted earlier were not forthcoming when these vacancies were filled up or whether these appointments were made because of the special qualifications of these candidates?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): As regards the two particular men whose names are given in the answer, I say that, so far as one of them is concerned, the explanation is given there. The post given to him is that of a shorthand typist and he is not on the same list as clerks. We wanted a man to do the shorthand typist's work and the best man among the candidates was selected for the work.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): May I know whether he was the best man available at the time?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes, at the time; and I have fully answered the member's question.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): By appointing these two men the claims of how many candidates were overlooked?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I have stated that, by the appointment of a shorthand typist, the claim of no person can be considered as overlooked.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): What about the other appointment?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): As regards the other candidate to whom I was about to refer, I observe that he had applied for an appointment in the Account Office as early as 1100 and that before he had his chance in the Account Office, he was appointed in the Secretariat in an acting vacancy. On the expiry of that vacancy, he renewed his application and, in consideration of the circumstances previously mentioned, he was selected for the appointment in the Account Office without reference to the actual date on which he had to come into the Account Office for the first time.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Am I to understand that his earlier application was considered?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): His earlier application as well as the fact that he had already been holding an acting appointment in the Secretariat were both taken into account.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Was he in the list of acting clerks?

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MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): How can he be? I have stated that no one could be in the list of acting men until he had actually been taken into the Account Office.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): What is the duration of these two appointments?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I cannot answer now.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): As things are at present?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): How can I say, Sir, about the duration of the acting men?

PRESIDENT: Probably, the member wants it collectively, adding the two together.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): It is stated in reply to parts (*a*) and (*b*) that none has been appointed in a substantial capacity. So, what I say is that these two appointments should cease some time or other.

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I may tell the member that there may be a number of acting men with a number of years of acting service and we cannot say anything about their duration of office.

Report of the Navigation Special Officer.

279. MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the report of the Navigation Special Officer?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The report is not available now as it is in the Press.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know when this report was submitted to Government by the Special Officer?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I have not got the information.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikom*): In answer to my question No. 94, the Government have stated that the report has only just been received and is being printed. Am I to understand that the report from that date to this date is in the Press?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The proofs were sent to the Chief Engineer for revision and he has finally passed them. So, it is now in the course of printing.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know when the Government expect it from the Press?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Very soon.

History of Services.

280. MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state why, in the History of Services published by the Government, the age of officers not confirmed in their respective appointments is omitted?

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